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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

GARY ESCHER, ET AL.

SERIAL NO: 10/550,215

FILED: SEPTEMBER 22, 2005

FOR: A BARRIER LAYER FOR A  
PROCESSING ELEMENT AND A  
METHOD OF FORMING THE SAME

:

: EXAMINER: YEVSIKOV, V.

:

: GROUP ART UNIT: 2891

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AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed October 2, 2006, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.